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NO.4

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CATMAN

COMICS

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SEPTEMBER

10¢



IN THIS ISSUE

64 THRILL-PACKED PAGES OF
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The CAT-MAN

by
CHAS. M.
QUINLAN

LEFT TO DIE BY BANDITS THAT HAVE KILLED HIS PARENTS WHILE TRAVELLING IN BURMA, DAVID MERRYWETHER IS PICKED UP BY A TIGRESS AND RAISED AS HER OWN. BY CONSTANT ASSOCIATION HE ACQUIRES ALL THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE CAT FAMILY. HE CAN SEE IN THE DARK, LEAP MANY TIMES HIS LENGTH, CLIMB ANYTHING, BUT MOST IMPORTANT, HE IS ENDOWED WITH THE FABULOUS NINE LIVES! HE VOWS TO DEVOTE HIS LIVES TO THE RIGHTING OF ALL WRONGS. ATTIRED IN A WEIRD, CAT-LIKE COSTUME, HIS DEEDS OF VALOR SOON MAKE HIM FAMOUS AS THE CAT-MAN.

A RADIO PROGRAM IS INTERRUPTED BY AN IMPORTANT NEWS FLASH!

...AND DAVID MERRYWETHER, THE WELL-KNOWN PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR SAYS HE WILL REVEAL THE NAMES OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE SWASTIKA COUNCIL WITHIN A WEEK!!

IN THE EDITOR'S OFFICE OF THE CITY'S LEADING NEWSPAPER!

O.K. BOSS! IF YOUR VISIT TO MERRYWETHER IS UNSUCCESSFUL ME AND DE ROSCOE WILL PAY HIM A VISIT!

LATER AT THE HOME OF DAVID MERRYWETHER

...IN MY CAPACITY AS EDITOR OF THE DISPATCH I OFFER YOU TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR A DUPLICATE COPY OF THE LIST....SO THAT AS SOON AS YOU FINISH YOUR BROADCAST--I WILL BE THE FIRST TO PUBLISH THE NAMES IN A PAPER.



I'M SORRY MR. GELDER BUT THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE ANY PREFERENCE. ALL NEWSPAPERS WILL RECEIVE A COPY OF THE LIST AT THE SAME TIME.



AW, I DON'T BELIEVE YOU EVEN HAVE A LIST. I'LL BET THIS IS ALL JUST A CHEAP PUBLICITY STUNT!



REST ASSURED MR. GELDER IT'S NOT A PUBLICITY STUNT....I AM GETTING THE LIST DIRECT FROM A PRESENT MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL!



FROM A MEMBER EH? HM--HOW INTERESTING GOOD-DAY, --

BUT BEFORE I GO MR. MERRYWETHER, LET ME WARN' YOU, IF YOU MAKE THOSE NAMES PUBLIC, YOU SIGN YOUR OWN DEATH WARRANT--GOOD-DAY AGAIN OR SHOULD I SAY GOOD-BYE!



HMM! NOW WHY DID HE SAY THAT?

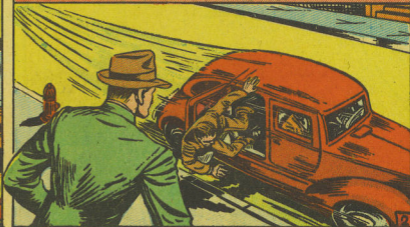


6 HOURS LATER!

WELL, IT'S TIME I WAS LEAVING TO MEET MY FRIEND WITH THAT LIST!



AS DAVID WALKS DOWN THE STEPS TO KEEP HIS APPOINTMENT, A CAR RACES OUT OF THE DARKNESS -- AND THE BODY OF A MAN IS HURLED SPRAWLING AT HIS FEET!



AS HE RUSHES TO AID THE VICTIM, A VOLLEY OF SHOTS FROM THE FLEEING CAR SPATTER ALL ABOUT HIM!



IGNORING THE SHOOTING, HE QUICKLY PICKS UP THE MAN AND CARRIES HIM INSIDE...



DEPOSITING HIM ON A COUCH, HE IMMEDIATELY CALLS THE POLICE



MERRYWETHER'S RESIDENCE, COME ON THE BUTTON, BRING A DOCTOR!

AS HE ATTEMPTS TO RESTORE THE MAN TO CONSCIOUSNESS HE MAKES A STARTLING DISCOVERY!

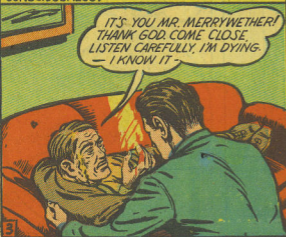


JUMPING SNAKES! IT'S THE MAN I WAS SUPPOSED TO MEET - I -- HEY! WHAT'S THIS!

FROM THE VICTIM'S NECK HANGS A COMMON SHIPPING TAG!



AS DAVID EXAMINES THE TAG, THE MAN REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS!



IT'S YOU MR. MERRYWETHER! THANK GOD. COME CLOSE, LISTEN CAREFULLY, I'M DYING. - I KNOW IT -

THE LIST I WAS TO GIVE TO YOU, THEY GOT IT, BUT THERE'S A DUPLICATE IN MY ROOM, 316 HART STREET, ROOM 14 GET IT -- IN ALARM CLOCK, HURRY, THEY MAY SEARCH MY ROOM! HAVE ALL NAMES ON LIST, BUT LEADERS, HIS IS -



THE MAN AGAIN LAPSE INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS!

THERE IS NO TIME TO WASTE,
IF I'M GOING TO GET THAT
LIST!



QUICKLY, HE DONS THE
GARB OF THE CAT-MAN!

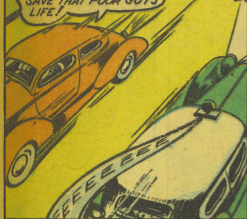


THE COPS WILL
BE HERE ANY
MINUTE. THEY'LL
KNOW WHAT
TO DO.

THE COSTUME CONCEALED BY
HIS HAT AND COAT, HE DASHES
OUT TO HIS CAR!



THERE'S THE POLICE NOW!
I HOPE THE DOCTOR
ARRIVES IN TIME TO
SAVE THAT POOR GUY'S
LIFE!



MEANWHILE, AT THE
INJURED MAN'S ROOM.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ARE
ALREADY SEARCHING THE VICTIM'S
BELONGINGS FOR A DUPLICATE LIST!



THE CAT-MAN QUICKLY ARRIVES
AT THE ROOMING HOUSE

ROOM 14, THAT
MUST BE ONE
FLIGHT UP!



LOCKED! I'LL HAVE
TO BREAK IT IN!

14



COME ON MEN, THERE'S NO
DUPLICATE HERE--LET'S GO
SHH--SOMEONE'S AT THE
DOOR!



GET READY, MEN! I'M
GOING TO OPEN IT UP!



WITH ONE ACCORD
THE MEN POUNCE ON
THE FALLEN CAT-MAN!



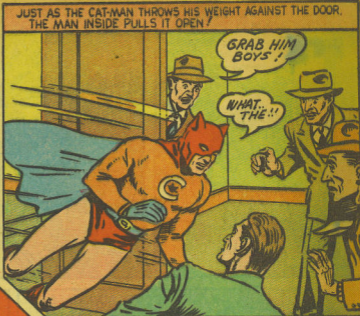
THE THUG AT THE DOOR FIRES
A SHOT! IT MISSES THE
CAT-MAN ----!



AND HITS
THE LIGHT!



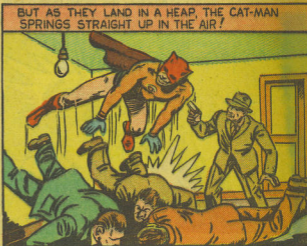
JUST AS THE CAT-MAN THROWS HIS WEIGHT AGAINST THE DOOR,
THE MAN INSIDE PULLS IT OPEN!



GRAB HIM
BOYS!

WHAT.
THE!!

BUT AS THEY LAND IN A HEAP, THE CAT-MAN
SPRINGS STRAIGHT UP IN THE AIR!



THE ROOM IS PLUNGED INTO DARKNESS !



WHAT A BREAK ! THIS IS
RIGHT UP MY ALLEY!
GOOD, HERE'S
THE ALARM-
CLOCK WHERE
THE LIST IS
HIDDEN!

UNKNOWN TO HIS ASSAILANTS, THE CAT-MAN
CAN SEE PERFECTLY IN THE DARK!

THE SHOT IS HEARD BY
AN ALERT POLICEMAN

HEY! THAT'S SHOOTIN'
SOMETHIN'S UP!



AS HE RUSHES TOWARD THE HOUSE,
HE BLOWS HIS WHISTLE AND ...



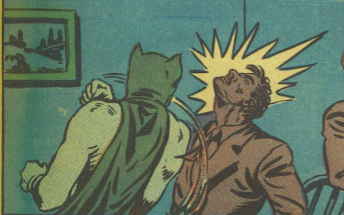
...ANOTHER OFFICER COMES
RACING TO HIS ASSISTANCE?

THAT SOUNDED LIKE A SHOT!
YEP, THERE'S MIKE'S WHISTLE



MEANWHILE!!

THE CAT-MAN TAKES ADVANTAGE OF
HIS STRANGE POWER AND QUICKLY
DASHES ABOUT, SUBDUING THE BEWILDERED SPIES!



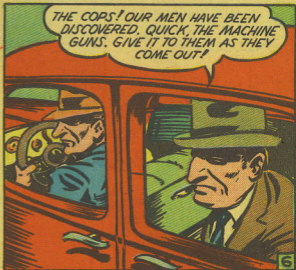
ONE AFTER THE OTHER, HE KNOCKS
THEM INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS ---



AS THE POLICE RUSH INTO THE BUILDING, A
SLEEK LIMOUSINE PULLS UP ON THE OPPOSITE
SIDE OF THE STREET



THE COPS! OUR MEN HAVE BEEN
DISCOVERED. QUICK, THE MACHINE
GUNS. GIVE IT TO THEM AS THEY
COME OUT!



SUDDENLY, THE POLICE OPEN THE DOOR. THE RAYS FROM THEIR FLASHLIGHTS CUT THROUGH THE DARKNESS!

GET 'EM UP! EVERY BODY!



LOOK! IT'S THE CAT-MAN!



SORRY! I CAN'T STAY TO EXPLAIN, BOYS, BUT ARREST THESE MEN. THEY'RE SPIES - SO LONG!



...AND THE CAT-MAN LEAPS OUT THE WINDOW AND DASHES TOWARD HIS CAR!



HEY BOSS, LOOK! THE CAT-MAN! HE WAS IN THERE

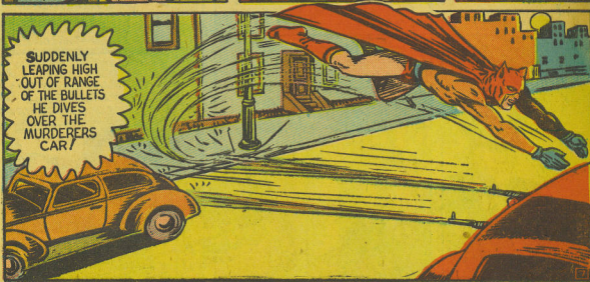
GIVE IT TO HIM!



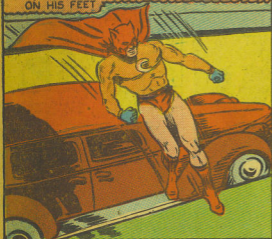
A DEADLY RAIN OF MACHINE GUN FIRE POURS AT THE CAT-MAN!!



SUDDENLY LEAPING HIGH OUT OF RANGE OF THE BULLETS HE DIVES OVER THE MURDERER'S CAR!



A QUICK TWIST IN MID-AIR AND HE LANDS ON HIS FEET



SWIFTLY PULLING THE DOORS OPEN, HE YANKS THE OFFENDERS OUT OF THEIR CAR!



THE SOCK ON THE JAW KNOCKS THE FAT GUNMAN'S HAT OFF.



TOUGH GUYS, EH! WELL HOW DO YOU LIKE THESE APPLES? WHAT THE?



FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE, IT'S GELDER!--EDITOR OF THE DISPATCH. HE MUST BE THE LEADER!

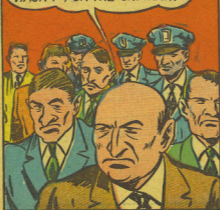


OH, OH, SOME MORE COPS I'M LEAVING!

THE CAT-MAN DASHES TO HIS CAR AND ROARS AWAY!

THE THUGS ARE QUICKLY ROUNDED UP AND TAKEN TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS

YOU DUMB COPS NEVER WOULD HAVE CAUGHT US IF IT WASN'T FOR THE CAT-MAN!



LATER:

DAVID MERRYWETHER KEEPS HIS PROMISE AND BROADCASTS THE LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SWASTIKA COUNCIL

...AND WE ARE GREATLY INDEBTED TO THE CAT-MAN FOR HIS AID IN CAPTURING THESE ENEMIES OF OUR COUNTRY!



ALWAYS TOPS IN ACTION, THRILLS AND STORIES! EVERYBODY ENJOYS

CAT-MAN



PUT UP YOUR HANDS
AND DON'T MOVE!



HEY, WHAT'S THE
MEANING OF THIS?
I WAS ASKED TO
COME HERE!

OH, YOU'RE THE RAG-
MAN, I'M SORRY, BUT
I MUST BE VERY
CAREFUL --- COME
INSIDE. I'LL TELL YOU
WHAT I WANT!



I AM SIR WILKENS SIDNEY, THE
OWNER OF THIS CASTLE --- THERE
ARE STRANGE THINGS GOING ON IN
HERE AND I'M WILLING TO PAY
YOU \$50,000 IF YOU SOLVE
THIS MYSTERY.

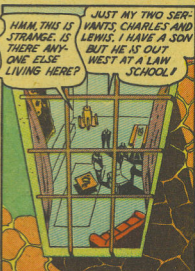


I KNOW YOU'LL THINK I'M
CRAZY WHEN I TELL YOU THIS --
BUT--WELL--THIS CASTLE IS
HAUNTED. I KNOW BECAUSE
I HAVE SEEN THE GHOST MYSELF!



FOR NEARLY 200 YEARS THIS CASTLE
HAS KNOWN TO BE HAUNTED BY
THE GHOST OF DUKE EDGEROY,
WHO WAS FOUND MURDERED IN THE
WEST WING! I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT
NONSENSE, UNTIL A MONTH AGO. I
SAW THE GHOST WALKING DOWN
THOSE STEPS, INTO
THIS ROOM AND
THEN DISAPPEARED
INTO THIN AIR!

YOU MUST HELP
ME! IF THIS
IS REALLY A
GHOST I'M
GOING TO SELL
THIS PLACE AND
GET AS FAR
AWAY FROM IT
AS POSSIBLE!



HMM, THIS IS
STRANGE. IS
THERE ANY-
ONE ELSE
LIVING HERE?

JUST MY TWO SER-
VANTS, CHARLES AND
LEWIS. I HAVE A SON
BUT HE IS OUT
WEST AT A LAW
SCHOOL!



WELL, I'LL SEE
WHAT I CAN-
DO, --- I'LL
LOOK AROUND

A --- A ---
LOOK! ---
THERE IT IS --
TH --- THE GHOST
OF DUKE EDGEROY!

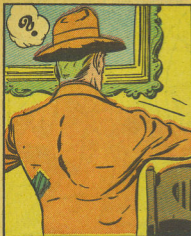


HUH --- HOLY SMOKES!
IT DOES LOOK LIKE
A GHOST! --- BUT I'M
GOING TO FIND
OUT FOR SURE!



DASHING ACROSS THE ROOM THE
RAG-MAN LEAPS AT THE APPARITION

... BUT AS HE REACHES THE MYSTERIOUS FIGURE IT DISAPPEARS



--- AND TUMBLES HEADLONG DOWN A NARROW SLIDE ---



(HMM--- IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN I TOUCHED HUMAN FLESH--) I THINK THIS IS SOME TRICK, SIR SIDNEY--LET'S LOOK FOR A SECRET PASSAGE



SEARCHING THE WALLS FOR A HIDDEN DEVICE, THE RAGMAN ACCIDENTALLY PUSHES A SMALL BUTTON---AND IN A FLASH HE VANISHES FROM THE ROOM ---



THERE'S SOMETHING BIG BEHIND ALL OF THIS --- AND I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT IT IS!

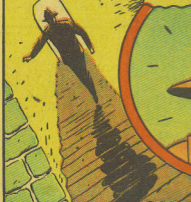
WELL, WELL ---NO WONDER OUR GHOST FRIEND APPEARS AND DISAPPEARS WHENEVER HE PLEASES!



EXPLORING THE DARK PASSAGES THE RAG-MAN SEES A SMALL LIGHT BURNING FAR BELOW ---



--- AT THE BOTTOM HE STOPS, AND STARES IN AMAZEMENT ---



AS QUIET AS A CAT, THE CRIME FIGHTER DECENDS THE LONG FLIGHT OF STONE STEPS ---



GOOD LORD! MONEY!---MILLIONS OF DOLLARS!

WELL, I'LL BE HANGED! IT'S ALL COUNTERFEIT. HM, THINGS ARE BEGINNING TO MAKE SENSE NOW.



VERY INTERESTING, EH, RAG-MAN? -- I'VE GOT TO GIVE YOU CREDIT. YOU WORK PRETTY FAST!

WHAP

OH, SO IT'S THE GHOST! WELL, I ALWAYS WANTED TO MEET A REAL GHOST AND ESPECIALLY ONE WHO PRINTS COUNTERFEIT MONEY!

STAY BACK!... STAND WHERE YOU ARE OR I'LL FIRE!

I FIGURED YOU WERE A FAKE ALL ALONG NOW I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHO YOU REALLY ARE



BEFORE THE GHOST CAN FIRE HE IS SENT SPINNING ACROSS THE FLOOR BY A SMASHING BLOW FROM THE RAG-MAN

GET ON YOUR FEET YOU SMALL TIME CROOK... THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING!

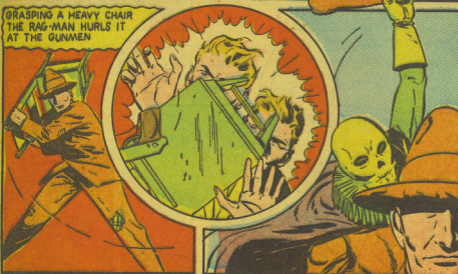


WELL, I SEE YOU HAVE HELP IN YOUR COUNTERFEIT RACKET!



GRASPING A HEAVY CHAIR THE RAG-MAN HURLS IT AT THE GUNMEN

TOO LATE TO AVOID THE BLOW, THE RAG-MAN DROPS TO THE FLOOR UNCONSCIOUS!



BRING THE DOG! WE'LL GIVE THIS MUG SOMETHING TO REALLY FIGHT! ...YOU, LOUIE, GATHER UP THE MONEY. WE MUST CHANGE OUR PLANS.

TEN MINUTES - LATER -

HEH, HEH, THERE HE IS ROVER! ... AND HAVE A GOOD TIME, HEH, HEH ...

AS THE DOOR SLAMS SHUT THE HUGE CUR SNARLS AT THE AWAKENING RAG-MAN ...



REALIZING HE MUST ACT QUICKLY, THE CRIME FIGHTER LEAPS TO HIS FEET

BUT BEFORE THE RAG-MAN CAN REACH THE WEAPON, THE DOG IS UPON HIM ...

ROLLING OVER AND OVER THE RAG-MAN AT LAST SEES AN OPENING ... SUDDENLY, PULLING HIS FEET UP UNDER THE ANIMAL AND ...

IF I CAN ONLY GET THAT GUN!



...EXERTING ALL HIS STRENGTH HE HURLS THE BEAST CLEAR ACROSS THE ROOM ...

BEFORE THE DOG CAN REGAIN ITS SENSES THE RAG-MAN SNATCHES UP THE GUN ...

...AND AS THE BEAST AGAIN LEAPS TO THE ATTACK, THE RAG-MAN FIRES





BREAKING THE LOCK ON THE DOOR
THE RAG-MAN STARTS SEARCH-
ING FOR THE GHOST

AH, I SEE YOU
HAVE ESCAPED
MY PET DOG!



BUT LET'S SEE YOU
ESCAPE MY BLADE!!

HA! YOU
MISSED!



YOU FOOL! I HAVE HAD YEARS
OF EXPERIENCE AT FENCING!
I'LL RUN YOU THROUGH!

TIME WILL TELL,
MY DEAR GHOST!

FOR A FULL THIRTY MINUTES THE CLANG
OF STEEL ON STEEL, RINGS LOUDLY
THROUGH THE MUSTY PASSAGES

THE "GHOST" TRIES ALL
HIS TRICKS, BUT THE
RAG-MAN PARRIES HIS
EVERY THRUST

THEN SLOWLY THE GHOST
IS BACKED OUT OF THE
ROOM ---

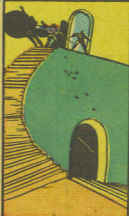
AT LAST HE SEES AN
OPENING AND THE CRIME
FIGHTER PLUNGES HIS
SWORD THROUGH HIS
OPPONENT'S SHOULDER



CLANG!



CRASH!



LOSING HIS BALANCE, THE "GHOST"
TOPPLES DOWN THE STEEP STAIRS

OH, THERE YOU ARE RAG-
MAN---I CAUGHT MY
TWO SERVANTS HERE
TRYING TO GET AWAY
WITH ALL OF THIS
MONEY!

HERE IS YOUR GHOST SIR
SIDNEY! IT'S MARTY VANCE
THE NOTORIOUS RACKETEER!
HE WAS TRYING TO SCARE
YOU INTO SELLING THIS
CASTLE--IT WOULD HAVE
MADE A PERFECT HIDEOUT
FOR HIS COUNTERFEIT
RACKET

THE FOLLOWING
DAY --




ANOTHER THRILLING EXPLOIT OF THE
RAGMAN IN THE NEXT CAT-MAN COMICS

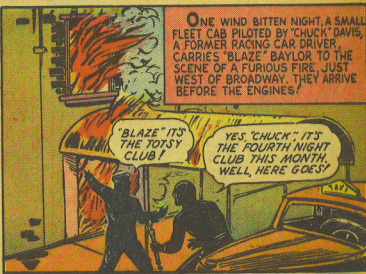
"Blaze" Baylor

and the

ARSON RING

A large illustration of the character Blaze Baylor, a man in a red hooded mask and a light blue jacket over a red shirt. He is holding a green cloth over his right shoulder and a fire hose in his left hand. He is surrounded by intense orange and yellow flames.

... WHEN THE FAMOUS FIRE CHIEF "SMOKEY" BAYLOR IS KILLED IN AN INCENDIARY FIRE ... HIS SON (A YOUNG INSPECTOR CALLED "BLAZE") VOWS VENGEANCE AND DEDICATES HIS LIFE TO THE TASK OF TRACKING DOWN ALL WHO PROFIT FROM THE CRIME OF ARSON!

A smaller illustration showing Blaze Baylor, wearing his red hooded mask and light blue jacket, standing next to a yellow taxi cab. The taxi is on fire, with flames and smoke rising from it. Two men are standing near the taxi, one pointing towards the fire. The scene is set at night.

ONE WIND BITTEN NIGHT, A SMALL FLEET CAB PILOTED BY "CHUCK" DAVIS, A FORMER RACING CAR DRIVER, CARRIES "BLAZE" BAYLOR TO THE SCENE OF A FURIOUS FIRE, JUST WEST OF BROADWAY. THEY ARRIVE BEFORE THE ENGINES!

"BLAZE" IT'S
THE TOTSY
CLUB!

YES, "CHUCK", IT'S
THE FOURTH NIGHT
CLUB THIS MONTH.
WELL, HERE GOES!

ARMED WITH HIS POTENT
CHEMICAL GUN, HIS SUIT
OF ASBESTOS AND A
GRAPPLING ROPE SLUNG
OVER HIS SHOULDER,
"BLAZE" DASHES FEAR-
LESSLY INTO THE
FLAMING
BUILDING!

HE RACES UP THE STAIRS TWO
AT A TIME --- TILL HE REACHES
THE THIRD FLOOR LANDING ---

--- THEN PAUSES, TO
GET HIS BEARINGS

AS NIMBLE AS
A CAT, "BLAZE"
LEAPS TO AVOID
A CRASHING
PARTITION!

A MOMENT LATER, HE HEARS A
STRAINED FEEBLE CRY STRUGGLING
ABOVE THE CRACKLING AND ROARING
OF THE BLAZING INFERNO

OH, OH...
WHAT'S THAT?

HELP!

IT'S "SCARFACE"
VELCOFF!

OWWWW

HE--HE'S DEAD!

GINGERLY AVOIDING THE
EAGER FLAMES, "BLAZE"
CARRIES THE LIFELESS BODY
TO THE OPEN
WINDOW!---

AND TOSSES THE DEAD
GANGSTER TO A
LIFENET BELOW

..ADJUSTING HIS
GRAPPLING ROPE..

HE QUICKLY SCRAM-
BLES DOWN THE SIDE
OF THE BUILDING

THIS SMART GUY
SEEMS TO HAVE
FOUND OUT THAT
CRIME DOESN'T
PAY!

SMELL THE GASOLINE
IN VELCOFF'S CLOTHES
CHIEF? --LUCKY I
DISCOVERED
HIM.

JED FOWLER,
OWNER OF THE
CLUB ARRIVES
ON THE SCENE

OH, HELLO FOWLER.
YOU'RE COMING
TO HEADQUARTERS
FOR QUESTIONING!

NEARBY, A BLACK
SEDAN IDLES SOFTLY

Owww

HEADQUARTERS!
WHY ME?
WHAT HAVE
I DONE?

C'MON CHUCK,
LET'S GO!

HE'S LIABLE
TO TALK--LET
'IM HAVE IT!

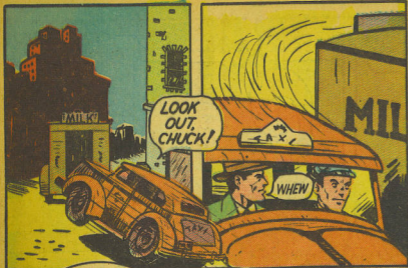
ZING

SHALL WE
CATCH THEM
BOSS?

NO, JUST FOLLOW
SO THAT THEY WON'T
NOTICE US--MEAN-
WHILE, I'LL SLIP MY
CLOTHES ON.

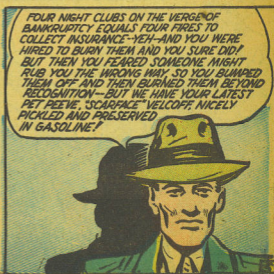
AS THE COLD
LIGHT OF DAWN
BREAKS
OVER THE
DESERTED
STREETS,
CHUCK
SKILLFULLY
GUIDES
HIS CAB IN
HOT PURSUIT
OF THE CAREEN-
ING BLACK
SEDAN!

SCREECH!



THE BLACK SEDAN DARTS
DOWN A DARK ALLEY!







DR.

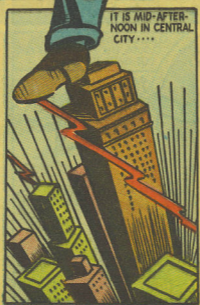
DIAMOND

By A. ULMER
& SAUL ROSEN

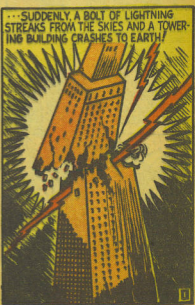


ENDOWED WITH STRANGE SUPERNATURAL POWERS,-- THE RESULT OF POSSESSING A WEIRD MAGICAL JEWEL, A YOUNG AMERICAN SURGEON CALLS HIMSELF DR. DIAMOND AND DEDICATES HIS LIFE TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THE FORCES OF EVIL.

IT IS MID-AFTERNOON IN CENTRAL CITY....



...SUDDENLY, A BOLT OF LIGHTNING STREAKS FROM THE SKIES AND A TOWERING BUILDING CRASHES TO EARTH.



HELLO!---HELLO!...
ARE YOU POSITIVE THERE
IS NO ELECTRICAL STORM
PASSING OVER CENTRAL
CITY!--WHAT--ARE---
ARE--YOU SURE!?

IT'S UNBELIEVABLE--IT--IT'S
INCREDIBLE!--I'VE CHECKED
EVERY POSSIBLE ANGLE--THERE'S
NO EXPLANATION FOR THIS
LIGHTNING--I---I CAN'T
UNDERSTAND IT!?

ONCE AGAIN SHARP BOLTS OF
LIGHTNING SHOOT OUT OF THE SKY--
AND AS IT HITS THE TALL BUILDINGS
THEY CRUMBLE LIKE PAPER.....



LOOK, LOOK!--IT--IT'S
A ZEPPELIN!--THE
LIGHTNING IS COMING
FROM THE CABIN--GOOD
LORD!--IT CAN'T BE!



...BUT FROM THE
HUGE AIRSHIP POWER-
FUL BOLTS OF LIGHTNING
BLAST DOWN UPON THE
METROPOLIS...

HA--HA--HA!
CENTRAL CITY!!
THE GREATEST
METROPOLIS
IN AMERICA--
DESTROYED
BY MAN-MADE
LIGHTNING!
HA--HA--HA!

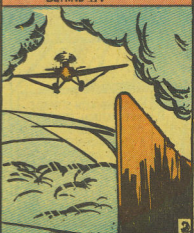


ALL RIGHT MEN
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR
TO-DAY--WE MUST
RETURN TO THE
ISLAND BEFORE
DARK!--FULL
SPEED AHEAD!



CLIMBING SWIFTLY INTO THE
CLOUDS, THE ZEPPELIN HEADS
OUT OVER THE SEA...

...ENTIRELY UNAWARE OF A SMALL
SLEEK PLANE STREAKING ALONG
BEHIND IT!



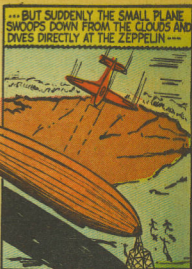
TWO HOURS LATER THE ZEPPELIN NOSES DOWN TOWARDS A SMALL BLEAK ISLAND OCCUPIED ONLY BY A HUGE HANGAR



LOWERING ROPES TO THE GROUND CREW THE AIRSHIP IS QUICKLY BROUGHT DOWN TO ITS MOORING STAND...



...BUT SUDDENLY THE SMALL PLANE SWOOPS DOWN FROM THE CLOUDS AND DIVES DIRECTLY AT THE ZEPPELIN...



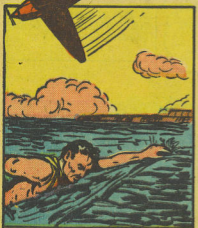
---INSIDE THE PLANE DR. DIAMOND BRINGS HIS MACHINE GUNS INTO ACTION---



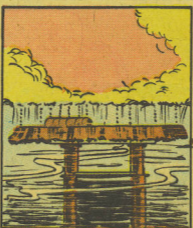
AT THE SAME INSTANT A BOLT OF LIGHTNING FLASHES FROM THE CABIN...



---AS THE TAIL OF THE PLANE BURSTS INTO FLAMES AND GOES PLUNGING INTO THE SEA, DR. DIAMOND LEAPS FROM THE COCKPIT---



...UNHURT HE RAPIDLY RISES TO THE TOP AND SWIMS STRAIGHT FOR THE ISLAND...



...BUT AS HE GETS NEARER THE ENTIRE ISLAND SUDDENLY SINKS DOWN BELOW THE SURFACE...

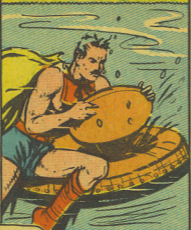
WOW! WHAT'S THIS? NOW YOU SEE IT AND NOW YOU DON'T! HMM, MAGIC! THERE'S SOMETHING BIG BEHIND THIS AND I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT IT IS!



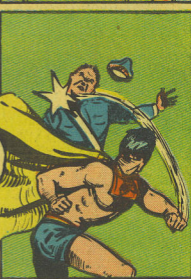
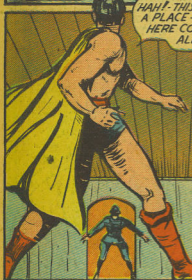
HE DIVES AND SWIMS TOWARDS
THE SUBMERGED ISLAND ---



EXERTING "SUPER-HUMAN"
STRENGTH DR. DIAMOND BREAKS
HIS WAY THROUGH THE HATCH....



...THEN QUICKLY CLOSES IT
ABOVE HIM....





GOOD WORK, MEN!
--AND NOW MY
MODERN SAMPRSON,
WHO ARE YOU
AND WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?



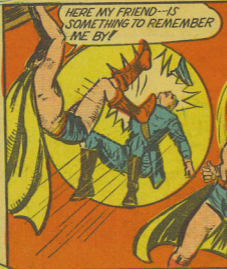
I AM KNOWN AS DR. DIAMOND.
I SPEND MY LIFE AIDING THE
WEAK AND DISTRESSED AND
DEFENDING AMERICA! --THE
ONE PLACE ON THIS
EARTH WHERE
MEN LIKE **YOU**
ARE ALWAYS
EVENTUALLY
CRUSHED BY
THE MILLIONS
OF HONEST
AND TRUE
AMERICANS!



BAH! TAKE THIS
FOOL TO THE GUARD
ROOM! --WE'LL SHOW
HIM WHO IS SUPREME!



LEAPING INTO THE
AIR, DR. DIAMOND
GRASPS A LOW
BEAM!



HERE MY FRIEND--IS
SOMETHING TO REMEMBER
ME BY!



THE POWERFUL FISTS OF
DR. DIAMOND QUICKLY SUB-
DUES THE OPPOSITION



HURRYING TO THE CONTROL BOARD
DR. DIAMOND TURNS A SWITCH AND
THE ISLAND BEGINS TO RISE TO
THE SURFACE

WHAT'S THIS!
EXPLOSIVES! THIS
GIVES ME AN IDEA!



IGNITING A LENGTH OF
FUSE, HE PLACES IT
IN ONE OF THE
POWDER KEGS----



---THEN WALKS SWIFTLY
BACK TO THE HANGAR!

HERE'S LUCK A
PLANE READY FOR
A TAKE-OFF--
I WONDER!

...AS HE RACES TOWARD THE PLANE
A BOLT OF LIGHTNING FLASHES BY...

WOW! THAT JUST
MASSSED ME!

YES DR. DIAMOND, THAT WAS
JUST A SAMPLE!-I AM GO-
ING TO DESTROY AMERICA
AS I SHALL DESTROY YOU
WITH THIS LIGHTNING
RAY--THE ENTIRE
WORLD CAN BE CON-
QUERED AND THEN
MY COUNTRY WILL
RULE THE UNIVERSE

BEFORE THE RAY CAN AGAIN BE
BROUGHT INTO ACTION DR. DIAMOND
LEAPS AT THE OPERATOR---

MEANWHILE, IN THE POWDER
ROOM, THE FUSE BURNS NEAR-
ER AND NEARER TO THE HIGH
EXPLOSIVES -----

RUSHING TO THE PLANE
DR. DIAMOND TAKES OFF
WITH HIS PRISONER

TAKE A LONG
LAST LOOK CAPT-
AIN, YOUR ISLAND
IS -----

BEFORE DR.
DIAMOND CAN
FINISH--THERE
IS A TERRIFIC
EXPLOSION ---
AND THE
ENTIRE ISLAND
IS BLOWN
FROM THE
SEA -----

ANOTHER THRILLING ACTION
STORY WITH "DR. DIAMOND"
APPEARS NEXT MONTH

WELL CAPTAIN, I GUESS THAT
OUGHT TO PROVE TO YOU
THAT CROSSING UNCLE
SAM IS A HOPELESS AS
WELL AS RISKY PASTIME!

in the
CAT-MAN
COMICS! 6

LUCKY LANDERS

WAR
CORRESPONDENT.

LUCKY LANDERS AN AMERICAN WAR CORRESPONDENT FOR THE NEW YORK DAILY IS ASSIGNED TO COVER FLASH NEWS FROM WAR TORN EUROPE ...

SOMEWHERE IN LONDON ---
BE VERY CAREFUL CHARLES. THOSE PLANS ARE OF EXTREME IMPORTANCE --- WE SHOULD HAVE ARRANGED A MILITARY ESCORT TO TAKE YOU TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S HOME!

DON'T WORRY SIR RONALD, I WILL GUARD THEM WITH MY LIFE!
OUR ENEMIES SHALL NEVER PUT THEIR HANDS ON THESE PAPERS!

MEANWHILE DIRECTLY ACROSS THE STREET ---

HELLO, X-7 -- HE'S COMING OUT NOW! SEND WORD TO X-3 IN THE PLANE!



AS THE ENGLISH WAR OFFICIAL HURRIES THROUGH THE SHELL-MARKED STREETS A GRIM FIGURE AWAITS HIM IN THE SHADOWS



HA! SIR CHARLES, YOU MAY HAND ME THE PLANS OF THAT NEW BOMB! -- MAKE NO OUTCRY AND YOU SHALL CONTINUE TO LIVE!

VON SCHELLGER!



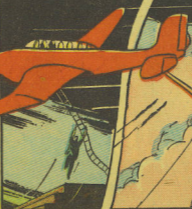
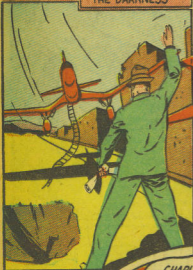
YOU'LL NOT GET THESE PAPERS! I'D RATHER DIE THAN SEE THEM IN YOUR HANDS!

YOU ARE VERY STUPID SIR CHARLES! -- WHEN OUR LEADER WANTS SOMETHING, HE USUALLY GETS IT -- REGARDLESS OF CIRCUMSTANCES!



REMOVING THE PAPERS FROM THE BRIEF CASE, VON SCHELLER STEPS INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET -- SUDDENLY, A PLANE ROARS OUT OF THE DARKNESS

AS IT SWOOPS CLOSE TO THE STREET, THE NAZI SPY LEAPS TO THE ROPE LADDER HANGING FROM BENEATH THE PLANE



A FEW MINUTES LATER, VON SCHELLER CLIMBS SAFELY INTO THE PLANE ----



AND THAT'S THE WAY IT HAPPENED MR. LANDERS. SIR CHARLES WAS BADLY WOUNDED. HE RECOGNIZED THE SPY AS VON SCHELLER, A DANGEROUS NAZI ESPIONAGE AGENT!

WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LET THE ENEMY HAVE THOSE PLANS. AND I FEEL THAT YOU ARE THE ONE PERSON WHO CAN BRING THEM BACK. IT WILL BE DANGEROUS, BUT I HAVE A SCHEME THAT MAY PROVE SUCCESSFUL!

ALL RIGHT, I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO -- LET'S HEAR YOUR PLAN

I KNEW YOU WOULD HELP US, BUT I WARN YOU -- IT WILL MEAN CERTAIN DEATH IF YOU ARE CAPTURED!

THE FOLLOWING DAY, SIR RONALD VISITS LANDERS AT HIS HOTEL --



LATE THAT NIGHT!
A SECRET
AIR BASE
ON THE
OUTSKIRTS
OF LONDON

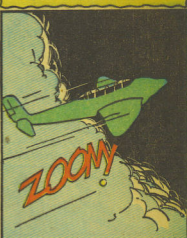
WELL, THERE'S YOUR
PLANE, LUCKY!--IT'S
AN ENEMY SHIP THAT
WAS SHOT DOWN AND
REBUILT---



AT LEAST IT WILL GET
ME OVER INTO ENEMY
TERRITORY!--AND DON'T
WORRY SIR RONALD, I'LL
GET THOSE PLANS!



WITH HIS FINAL INSTRUCTIONS,
LUCKY BIDS FAREWELL ---

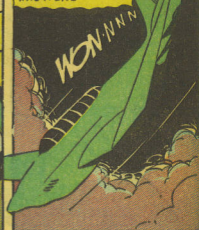


A FEW HOURS LATER, LUCKY IS
CIRCLING OVER A SMALL VILLAGE



HERE GOES!
I'VE GOT TO CRASH
THIS SHIP TO MAKE
THINGS LOOK REAL.

CUTTING THE MOTOR,
LUCKY NOSES OVER
INTO A DIVE ---



SUDDENLY, POWERFUL SEARCHLIGHTS
GLEAM ACROSS THE SKY---

--- AND A FEW SECONDS LATER HE
CRASHES INTO A CLUMP OF TREES ---



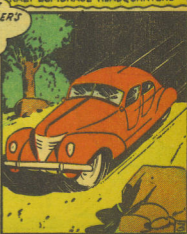
-- AS THE PLANE BURSTS INTO FLAMES
NAZI SOLDIERS DRAG HIM FROM THE
WRECKAGE.



QUICK! GET AN
AMBULANCE
HE MAY BE
BADLY
HURT!

NO--NO--I'M ALLRIGHT
I--TAKE ME TO SCHELLER'S
HEADQUARTERS AT
ONCE!--IT--IT'S
VERY URGENT!

HIS BLUFF UNQUESTIONED, LUCKY
IS SOON SPEEDING TOWARDS THE
NAZI ESPIONAGE HEADQUARTERS



AN HOUR LATER AT SCHELLGERS
HEADQUARTERS ---

HERR SCHELLGER, ONE OF
OUR MEN IS HERE, HE WISHES
TO SEE YOU ABOUT PLANS OF A
NEW BOMB THAT WAS TAKEN
FROM ENGLAND!

WHAT!
SHOW HIM IN!

ACH! YOU IDIOTS! -- I THOUGHT
SO! -- NO ONE KNEW ABOUT
THOSE PLANS BUT MYSELF
AND A FEW HIGH OFFICIALS --
THIS MAN IS A SPY! SEIZE
HIM!!

HA!... YOU THOUGHT I
WOULDN'T KNOW YOU IN
ONE OF OUR UNIFORMS!
SO YOU CAME TO GET THOSE
PLANS BACK--WELL, MY FRIEND
I DON'T THINK YOU'LL HAVE THE
CHANCE!

YOU BLUNDERING FOOLS!
THIS MAN IS MORE DANGEROUS
TO US THAN THE ENTIRE BRITISH
ARMY--HE'S AN AMERICAN NEWS
CORRESPONDENT--LUCKY LANDERS
--I HAVE HAD DEALINGS WITH
HIM BEFORE!

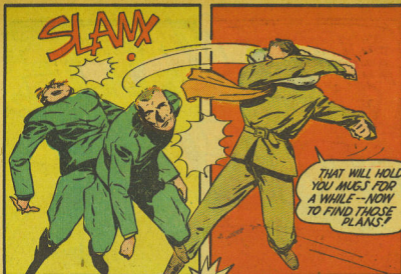
THAT'S RIGHT SCHELLGER!
LUCKY LANDERS!--AND
HERE'S MY CALLING
CARD!

LUCKY TURNS ON THE OTHER
GUARDS AS THEY RUSH TO MEET
HIM! ---

POW!

COME AND
GET IT BOYS!
I'M IN THE MOOD
FOR A GOOD
SCRAP!

NAME YOUR
FLOWERS, BROTHER!



THAT WILL HOLD
YOU MUGS FOR
A WHILE--NOW
TO FIND THOSE
PLANS!



HA!--I THOUGHT SO!--IN
VON SCHELLGER'S
POCKET!

AS LUCKY TURNS TO MAKE HIS
ESCAPE, HE IS SUDDENLY STOPP-
ED BY A GROUP OF NAZI GUARDS--



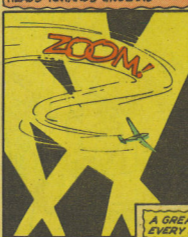
POW!

SORRY, I CAN'T
STAY LONG BOYS,
BUT I'M IN A
HURRY!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, LUCKY
DASHES OUT ONTO THE LANDING
FIELD--!



--BEFORE THE NAZIS CAN STOP
HIM, HE ZOOMS INTO THE AIR AND
HEADS TOWARDS ENGLAND--



THE FOLLOWING
DAY BACK
IN
ENGLAND



YOU HAVE DONE A
GREAT DEED FOR
ENGLAND, MR. LANDERS--
THIS COUNTRY NEEDS
MORE MEN
LIKE YOU
TO WIN
THIS WAR!!

A GREAT LUCKY LANDERS ADVENTURE
EVERY MONTH IN CAT-MAN COMICS!

"HURRICANE" HARRIGAN

HANK HARRIGAN, AN AMERICAN COWBOY, WITH AN OVERPOWERING LOVE OF ADVENTURE AND STRANGE LANDS IS NOW IN INDIA!

by CHAS. M.
QUINLAN



AT THE HOME OF A WEALTHY HINDU IN THE CITY OF RANGOON

THAT'S THE WAY IT IS
SAHIBS, 50% FOR ME
AND THE REST
DIVIDED AMONG
YOU.

BUT WE
DO ALL THE
WORK!

I AM BEING VERY
GENEROUS--BESIDES,
YOU CAN TAKE IT
OR LEAVE IT!









ALLRIGHT, YOU MUGS,
'SCRAM!' AND TELL YOUR
BOSS TO LAY OFF SINGH
OR I'LL RUIN BOTH HIM
AND HIS RACKET!

LATER:

THE
THUGS
REPORT
TO THEIR
VILLAINOUS
LEADER

'TWAS AT THE SHOP OF SINGH, MASTER--
AN AMERICAN, HE BEAT US AND
EJECTED US FORCIBLY FROM
THE ESTABLISHMENT!

FOOLS! WHY
DID YOU NOT
SHOOT HIM?

IMPOSSIBLE! HE IS
FASTER AND MORE
DEADLY THAN THE
COBRA!

WAIT-!...EVEN THE
COBRA CAN BE
CAUGHT... HIM, I HAVE
A PLAN!

TO-NIGHT WE BOMB
THE SHOP OF SINGH!

A LITTLE AFTER
MIDNIGHT!
IN THE SHADOW
OF A DOORWAY
ACROSS THE
STREET FROM
SINGH'S SHOP

THEY WILL NOT COME
SAHIB, LET US GO HOME.
BESIDES THE AIR IS
CHILLY.

HERE, SLIP MY COAT ON--
I KNOW THOSE BIRDS,
THEY'LL BE HERE---
LOOK! THAT CAR!

AN OLD JALOPPY CHUGS OUT OF THE DARKNESS AND STOPS NEAR SINGH'S ESTABLISHMENT!



A FURTIVE FIGURE CLIMBS OUT AND LOOKS CAUTIOUSLY AROUND--

HE SIGNALS, AND FOUR OTHERS QUICKLY FOLLOW!

THE AMERICAN AWAITS US ACROSS THE STREET, MY PLAN CANNOT FAIL!



AS HURRICANE PREPARES TO ATTACK THE GANG, THE DOOR SUDDENLY OPENS BEHIND HIM!

QUICK! GET HIM!



...BUT AT THE SAME INSTANT A SQUAD OF NATIVE POLICE DASH OUT OF SINGH'S SHOP!

STOP! DON'T MOVE OR WE FIRE!

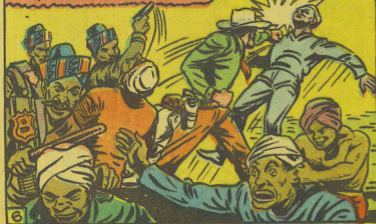
SIKHH!!



THE TRAPPED THUGS TRY TO MAKE A BREAK TO ESCAPE



THE THUGS FIGHT DESPERATELY, BUT HURRICANE AND HIS SIKHH ALLIES QUICKLY OVERPOWER THEM!



THE TROUBLE WITH YOU CHUM, IS THAT YOU REMEMBERED AMERICAN GANGSTER METHODS TOO WELL AND FORGOT THE OLD HINDU ADAGE THAT 'HE WHO TRACKS THE TIGER MUST BEWARE THAT THE TIGER DOES NOT TRACK HIM!'



"HURRICANE" AND "SKEEB" GET THE SENSATION OF THEIR LIVES IN THE NEXT ACTION-PACKED CAT-MAN COMICS

The DEACON

FROM A SECRET HIDEAWAY IN THE OLD MARSHLAND CHURCH, THE DEACON AND HIS YOUNG COMPANION MICKEY CONTINUE THEIR NEVER-ENDING WAR ON CRIME

by ALLEN
ULMER
ILLUSTRATED BY
CHAS. MCGUINLAN

IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE AT THE
STATE PRISON

WELL JOHNNY I
HOPE THESE THREE
YEARS HAVE TAUGHT
YOU A LESSON! GO
STRAIGHT, KID Y..

BALONEY!
DON'T GIVE
ME THAT LINE
I KNOW
WHAT I'M
GOING TO DO



SO LONG JOHNNY
WE'LL BE SEEN
YOU SOON

OH YEAH!
YOU COPPERS
AIN'T GONNA
SEE ME HERE
AGAIN JUST REMEM-
BER THAT WISE GUY,
I GOT PLANS...
BIG PLANS



TWO NIGHTS
LATER...
IN A
NARROW
ALLEY
SOMEWHERE
IN THE
UNDER-
WORLD

HI'YA DINKY!
I SEE YOU
GOT MY
MESSAGE!

GEE JOHNNY I'M
GLAD TA' SEE YA!
THREE YEARS
LONG TIME TA'
SPEND IN THE
STIR, HUH?
WHAT'S ON YU
MIND,

PLENTY
DINKY! I'VE
LEARNED A LOT
IN THE LAST
THREE YEARS--
BUT FIRST
WE GOTTA GET
SOME CASH,
AND THEN IT'S
GONNA BE BIG TIME
STUFF! WE'RE
GONNA BE BIG SHOTS
LIKE...
NELSON
AND
DILLINGER

YEAH! BUT
WHAT ABOUT
YOUR KID
BROTHER
HERE?
HE'S ...

NO JOHNNY!
DON'T DO IT AGAIN,
DON'T JOIN UP
WITH DINKY! HE'S
A MURDERER! HE
KILLED A COP ONCE!
JOHNNY, DON'T STEAL
AGAIN -- PLEASE DON'T
YOU'LL GO RIGHT BACK
AGAIN -- BACK
TO PRISON!!

WHY YA' NO GOOD LITTLE
SQUIRT! WHO SAID I
WAS A KILLER?
BESIDES, WHAT
JOHNNY DOES
IS HIS BUSI-
NESS

HEY! WHAT DO YA'
THINK YA' DOING!
HE'S MY KID BROTHER
SO LAY OFF!

OK.
O.K.

MAYBE THIS WILL TEACH
YA' A LESSON, DINKY...
I'M RUNNIN' THIS
OUTFIT FROM NOW ON,
SO DON'T GET ANY
WISE IDEAS!

O.K. BILLY, YOU BETTER
BEAT IT HOME, AND
REMEMBER TO KEEP
YOUR NOSE OUT
OF MY AFFAIRS

O-O-K. JOHNNY-
I'-I'LL SEE
YOU AT
HOME

AS BILLY
WALKS
SLOWLY
DOWN THE
ALLEY--HE
IS UNA-
WARE OF
A MYSTER-
IOUS FIG-
URE...
WAITING
IN THE
SHADOWS

HELLO BILLY... I HEAR YOUR BIG
BROTHER JOHNNY IS OUT

WHA...YOU' TH-
THE DEACON! YOU
YOU'RE THE ONE
WHO SENT HIM
TO PRISON!

JOHNNY COMMITTED A CRIME BILLY AND THE LAW MADE HIM PAY! AND I HOPE FOR YOUR SAKE THAT HE'S GOING STRAIGHT! I DON'T BLAME HIM FOR TRYING TO MAKE EASY DOUGH, WHEN GUYS LIKE YOU ARE ALWAYS SPYING ON HIM!



YOU DON'T WANT TO BE LIKE HIM BILLY... THE PROFITS OF CRIME AREN'T WORTH IT... IT'S LIKE A SNOW BALL, THE LONGER IT ROLLS THE BIGGER IT GETS!... YOU START OUT STEALING SMALL THINGS, THEN YOU GET DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO CRIME UNTIL AT LAST IT'S TOO LATE TO TURN BACK!



BAH!... YOU FANCY-PANTS CRIME FIGHTERS ARE ALL ALIKE, ALWAYS GIVING SOMEONE A SPEECH... WELL JUST WAIT AND SEE... JOHNNY'S GOING TO BE A BIG SHOT AND NO ONE IS GOING TO STOP HIM!



LATE THE FOLLOWING AFTER-NOON IN A DOWNTOWN JEWELRY STORE...

O.K. DINKY LETS GO! WE'VE GOT PLENTY



NO--NO--YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH IT-- HELP!-- POLICE!



SO YOU WANT TO MAKE TROUBLE? EH? WELL I'LL SHUT YOU UP!



NO--NO--DON'T SHOOT--I--I OOO...



HURRY JOHNNY! GET THE CAR STARTED. SOME GUYS AFTER US!



OH OH IT LOOKS LIKE I'M TOO LATE!



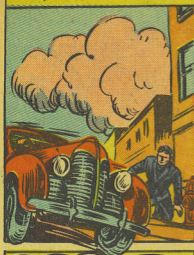
YEAH DINKY THE DEACON AND JUST IN TIME TO CATCH SOME RATS!



THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK DEACON! HERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WANTING TO GIVE YOU FOR A LONG TIME



BEFORE THE DEACON CAN REGAIN HIS SENSES, THE GUNMEN SPEED AWAY.



AND LATE THAT NIGHT THE DEACON ONCE MORE VISITS THE HIDEOUT OF JOHNNY AND DINKY



PSST!-- BILLY-- BILLY-- COME HERE --

YOU AGAIN -- THE DEACON! -- JOHNNY

WAIT BILLY! DON'T CALL JOHNNY! YOU DON'T KNOW THAT JOHNNY AND DINKY KILLED A MAN THIS AFTERNOON, DO YOU??-- COME ON, I'M GOING IN THERE AND SHOW YOU WHAT KIND OF A BROTHER YOU REALLY HAVE!



I THOUGHT I TOLD YA' TO YELL IF ANYONE SHOWED UP OUTSIDE -- YOU DIRTY LITTLE --

HELLO JOHNNY!-- REMEMBER ME?? I CAME TO TAKE YOU AND DINKY TO THE POLICE -- I --

THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG DEACON-- HOIST YOUR ARMS!



WHA-- OH! HIDING BEHIND DOORS EH, DINKY?

SO THE KID SQUEALED ON US EH? A FINE BROTHER YOU HAVE, JOHNNY!



I'LL TEACH YA' TO LISTEN TO ME!-- DINKY WAS RIGHT I SHOULD'VE GOT RID OF YA' LONG AGO!



YOU GENTLEMEN HAVE A KNACK FOR BEATING YOUNG BOYS-- FIRST I'LL --



-- PUT YOU OUT OF THE WAY-- AND --



NO -- NO -- DON'T HIT ME -- I'LL -- I'LL



SO BIG SHOT JOHNNY IS CORNERED? -- AND CRYING EH?

WHICH ONE OF YOU
MUSGS KILLED THAT
JEWELER??



NO I-- WON'T
TELL YOU--Y
YOU CAN'T
MAKE ME!!

ALL RIGHT JOHNNY
YOU'RE ASKING FOR IT!--
IF THIS IS THE ONLY WAY
I CAN MAKE YOU TALK
I'LL HAVE TO GIVE IT
TO YOU!



I'LL MAKE YOU TALK
IF I HAVE TO CLEAN
UP THIS ROOM
WITH YOU!



NOW JOHNNY --
WHO -- KILLED -- THAT
JEWELER?!



SURE--I'LL TELL--
I'M NOT GONNA
BURN FOR A
MURDER--IT
WAS DINKY!!!

WHY YOU YELLOW SQUEALIN'
RAT! --STAND BACK DEACON OR
I'LL FILL YA' WITH LEAD!



SO YA THINK I'M GONNA BURN FOR
THAT KILLING EH?--WELL --
YOU KNOW TOO MUCH MR
DEACON! NOW, SEE HOW IT
FEELS TO
TASTE
LEAD!



AS DINKY'S FINGER TIGHTENS ON THE
TRIGGER-- BILLY LEAPS AT
HIS ARM --



--AND AS THEY TUMBLE TO THE FLOOR
DINKY FIRES, AND THE BOY ROLLS
TO THE FLOOR MOTIONLESS!

DINKY, I'M COMING
TO GET YOU!--IF
BILLY IS DEAD--I'LL--

STAND BACK--
DEACON--I--
I'LL SHOOT!





LANCE RAND



EDWARD
LIPOW



EXTRA!

NEWS

APE ESCAPES

GRAPHIC

**"MONSTRO" CIRCUS
GORILLA ESCAPES
FROM JENKS BROS. CIRCUS**

IT IS BELIEVED THAT "MONSTRO"
THE GORILLA WHICH ESCAPED
LAST NIGHT FROM JENKS
BROTHERS' CIRCUS IS HEADED
FOR THE METROPOLIS. ALL
CITIZENS ARE WARNED TO BE
ON THE LOOKOUT ...

THE SCREAMING HEADLINES ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF SLUGGER
MARTIN, CHEAP HOODLUM AND PENNY-ANTE RACKETEER

NOW AIN'T THAT
INTERESTIN'

WAIT'LL PUGGSY
SEES THIS



YA TOOK YER TIME OPENIN'
THE DOOR DID'N YA ?
IS PUGGSY IN ?

YEH, SURE, HE'S WAITIN'
FOR YOU

READ IT FER YERSELF PUGGSY... THIS
THING IS MADE TO ORDER FER US...
I WAS THINKIN' THAT MAYBE
IF WE ...

YOU WERE THINKING ! YOU CHISLING
TWO-BIT HOODLUM, YOU'D STILL BE
PICKING POCKETS IF IT WERE'NT FOR
ME ! I'LL DO THE THINKING FOR THIS MOB

SOME TIME LATER A SERIES OF
BRUTAL KILLINGS OCCURS LEAVING
THE CITY TERRORIZED

EEEEEEEEYYAA

MMFFFFF

ALL AVAILABLE PATROL CARS AND POLICE SCOUT
THE CITY INCESSENTLY ... BUT TO NO AVAIL ...
THE KILLINGS CONTINUE WITH CLOCK-LIKE REGULARITY

WHEEEEEEEEEE

YAAAAA

MEAN WHILE
JENKS THE CIRCUS
OWNER IN
DESPERATION
CALLS IN LANCE
RAND AND HIS
ASSISTANT,
TUBBY.....
AMID A ROOM-
FULL OF REPORT-
ERS, HE EXPLAINS



I TELL YOU RAND YOU'VE GOT TO
LOCATE "MONSTRO". THERE'S MORE
TO THIS THAN YOU THINK...

I DON'T FOLLOW YOU



JENKS DRAWS
LANCE TO ONE
SIDE AND WHISPERS...

SOMETHING'S UP



WHAT? WHY ITS
INCREDIBLE! ARE
YOU SURE?

HM... THAT PUTS A NEW LIGHT ON THE
CASE, TUBBY

WHAT DID THE OLD GOAT
HAVE TO SA ... HEY! LOOK!



WITH A YELL LANCE DASHES
TOWARD THE GUN MEN ...

OK SUCKER
YER ASKIN
FER IT!



JEEPERS! THAT GUY KNOCKED SLUGGER AND
DIPPY COLD! THERE'S NO FUTURE FOR
ME IN THIS SPOT!

MOVE OVER SAM, I'VE GOT TO CATCH
A MURDERER
NO SUH! NOT ME
AH'S GOIN' PLACES!

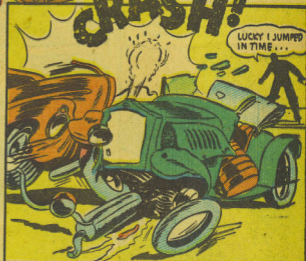


SPEEDING AROUND THE CORNER
LANCE INTERCEPTS THE THUG...



CRASH!

LUCKY I JUMPED
IN TIME...



NOW TALK RAT OR I'LL LET YOU HAVE IT!
WHO'S BEHIND THESE STICKUPS?

P-PUGGSY
S-S-S-SLOANE



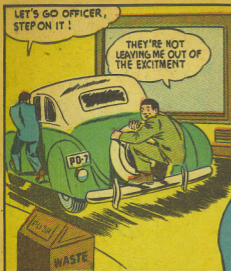
WHAT GOES ON HERE?



CALLING ALL CARS... "MONSTRO" THE
ESCAPED GORILLA HAS BEEN REPORTED
SEEN NEAR THE WATER FRONT STREET
WAREHOUSES!

WHY THAT'S ONLY
A COUPLE OF
BLOCKS FROM
HERE!





BUT LANCE HAS'NT RECKONED WITH THE ROTTED ROOF BOARDS WHICH GIVE IN UNDER HIS WEIGHT AND...



AS THE APE LUNGES ... LANCE DEFTLY SIDE STEPS
AND GETS AN ARMLOCK AROUND THE GORILLA'S
NECK ... AS HE SLOWLY INCREASES PRESSURE ...



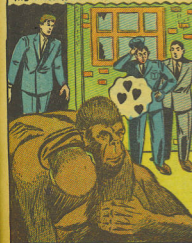
HMM... APE THAT TALKS! ...
THAT'S INTERESTING...

JUST AS I SUSPECTED ... PUGGSY
SLOANE ... IN DISGUISE



WELL I'LL BE ... ITS "MONSTRO" THE
CIRCUS GORILLA!

LANCE EMERGES FROM THE WAREHOUSE,
PRECEDED BY "MONSTRO" CARRYING
THE UNCONSCIOUS PUGGSY...



THERE'S THE MURDERER AND THE BRAINS
BEHIND THE BANK STICK-UP, OFFICER...
PUGGSY SLOANE... HE CAPTURED "MONSTRO"
DISGUISED HIMSELF AS THE APE AND
LURED ALL PATROL CARS TO ANOTHER
SECTION OF THE CITY WHILE HIS MOB
LOOTED THE BANK... THE REAL GORILLA
IS HARMLESS.



WHEN DID YOU FIRST SUSPECT THAT THE
GORILLA DIDN'T DO THE KILLINGS, LANCE?

JENKS SECRETLY TOLD ME THAT THE APE
IS HARMLESS, BUT FOR PUBLICITY'S SAKE
HE WAS ADVERTISED AS A FEROCIOUS
GORILLA... PUGGSY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF
THAT TO TERRORIZE THE CITY...



MORE LANCE RAND ADVENTURES IN THE NEXT
ISSUE OF **CAT-MAN COMICS!**

DEVIL DOGS

SERGEANT BILL TANNER AND CORPORAL WALLY WHITE OF THE UNITED STATES MARINES ARE ON SPECIAL DUTY IN THE BURMA ROAD SECTOR---THEY HAVE JUST BEEN NOTIFIED THAT THE COLONEL HAS AN IMPORTANT MISSION FOR THEM.

HERE ARE LI WANG'S CREDENTIALS. EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE IN ORDER, BUT WE ARE STILL SUSPICIOUS OF HIM.--I WANT YOU MEN TO CHECK UP ON HIM BUT BE VERY CAREFUL!!!

BOY THIS IS GOING TO BE A CINCH, JUST KEEPING TABS ON A CHINESE IMPORTER!--WHO SAID THE LIFE OF A MARINE WAS TOUGH!

OH YEAH! YOU CAN'T KID ME PAL--I KNOW YOU HATE THIS ASSIGNMENT!--YOU WANT SOME EXCITEMENT AND I HAVE A HUNCH YOU'RE GOING TO GET IT, OLD BOY!

MEANWHILE, ON THE CHINDWAN RIVER THE LUXURIOUS YACHT OF LI WANG LIES AT ANCHOR



ON BOARD THE YACHT, LI WANG TALKS TO HIS HINDU PARTNER, TOGRA

ARE YOU SURE THE TWO MARINES WILL BE HERE TONIGHT?

I'M POSITIVE! I SENT THEM AN INVITATION TO THE PARTY THIS MORNING AND IF I KNOW MARINES, THEY'LL BE HERE WITH BELLS ON!

GOOD!—THEN EVERYTHING IS READY—THOSE TWO AMERICANS ARE VERY CLEVER, BUT I MUST BE ONE STEP AHEAD OF THEM!

THAT NIGHT ON LI WANG'S YACHT, A GAY PARTY IS IN PROGRESS



SERGEANT TANNER AND CORPORAL WHITE! I'M GLAD YOU CAME! COME, I WANT YOU TO MEET A FRIEND OF MINE!

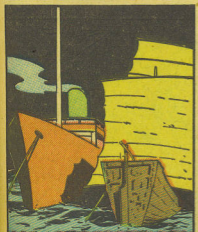
THIS IS TOGRA, MY PARTNER. HE HAS FOUND SOMETHING THAT MIGHT BE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO THE AMERICAN COUNCIL!

THIS WAY, GENTLEMEN, TO MY CABIN! ---IT IS TOO DANGEROUS TO EXPLAIN IT HERE!

---AS THE TWO MARINES STEP OUT ONTO THE DECK---

WHAT TH!---I---I FEEL WEAK---I---I

BILL I---I OHHHH



SUDDENLY FROM OUT OF THE FOG, A CHINESE JUNK LOOMS UP ALONGSIDE OF THE YACHT

SWIFTLY, THE TWO UNCONSCIOUS MARINES ARE TRANSFERRED TO THE RIVER-BOAT



AS SILENT AS A GHOST, THE CHINESE JUNK DRIFTS DOWN THE RIVER AND DISAPPEARS INTO THE DEEP MIST--





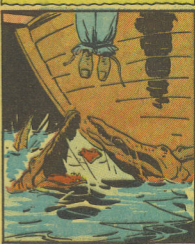
THERE ARE 100,000 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION AND 5,000 RIFLES LEAVING RANGOON---I WANT TO KNOW WHEN IT'S LEAVING AND WHERE IT'S GOING! IF YOU THINK WE'LL TELL YOU'RE CRAZY!



AT TOGRA'S SIGNAL, WALLY IS LOWERED OVER THE SIDE OF THE BOAT ---



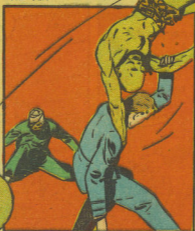
BELOW HIM, HUNGRY CROCODILES SNAP AT HIS LEGS ---



BILL CONNECTS WITH A POWERFUL LEFT HOOK... BUT AT THE SAME INSTANT, ANOTHER THUG LEAPS ON HIS BACK...



...USING AN OLD JIU-JITSU TRICK, HE HURLS HIM THROUGH THE AIR...



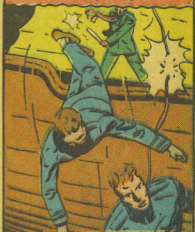
...AND OVER THE SIDE ---
---DOWN INTO THE
WATER---



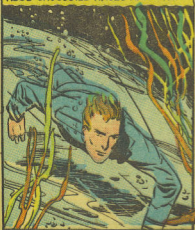
MEANWHILE, BILL HELPS WALLY UP ONTO THE DECK... UNWARE THAT TOGRA HAS REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS



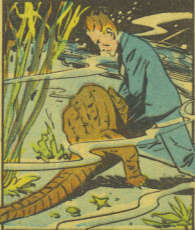
THE HINDU SWINGS VICIOUSLY AND BOTH BILL AND WALLY PLUNGE DOWN AMONG THE CROCODILES ---



ALTHOUGH DAZED FROM THE BLOW, BILL SWIMS TO THE BOTTOM--AS A HUGE CROCODILE RACES AFTER HIM



THE UGLY REPTILE LASHES OUT! BILL, GRABBING ITS' LEGS, SWINGS ABOARD ITS' BACK---



WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH, HE TEARS AT THE CROCODILES JAWS UNTIL THEY CRACK, AND THE BEAST LAYS STILL.



NOW, I'VE GOT
TO FIND WALLY
BEFORE IT'S
TOO LATE!

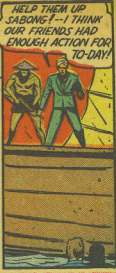


THERE HE IS!



ARE YOU O.K. WALLY?

YEAH, I'M ALL RIGHT PAL--BUT THAT WAS PRETTY CLOSE!



HELP THEM UP SABONG!--I THINK OUR FRIENDS HAD ENOUGH ACTION FOR TO-DAY!



THAT WAS A VERY FOOLISH ACT SERGEANT TANNER--IT'S TOO BAD I CANNOT DISPOSE OF YOU IN MY OWN WAY, BUT LI WANG IS ON HIS WAY, AND I'M SURE HE'LL LOOSEN YOUR TONGUES. SABONG, TAKE THEM BELOW!



WE'VE GOT TO MAKE A BREAK, WALLY--LI WANG IS A BAD EGG AND HE'LL GO TO ANY MEASURES TO MAKE US TALK!

I'M WITH YOU CHUM, BUT I CAN'T DO MUCH--MY HANDS ARE TIED.



TAKING SABONG BY SURPRISE, BILL SUDDENLY TURNS AND SWINGS A TERRIFIC LEFT AT THE THUG'S JAW



YOU'LL BE LOOSE IN A MINUTE. THERE! WE'RE GOING TO DO A LITTLE INVESTIGATING.

LI WANG IS UP TO SOMETHING AND WHAT EVER IT IS IT'S PLENTY BIG!



HERE WE ARE! LOOK AT THOSE BOXES WALLY--C'MON, LET'S HAVE A LOOK.



HOLY JUMPIN CAT FISH--RIFLES! THIS IS THE SHIPMENT THAT WAS HI-JACKED LAST WEEK!

HOLD IT BILL! LISTEN! SOMEONE IS COMING!









THE

LATE ONE NIGHT, CITY DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOHN CRAIG ENTERS HIS HOME AFTER A GAY EVENING AT THE THEATRE---

AS HE SWITCHES ON THE LIGHT HE GLANCES TOWARDS THE WINDOW---SUDDENLY HIS EYES BULGE WITH TERROR---HE STAGGERS BACK AGAINST THE WALL---

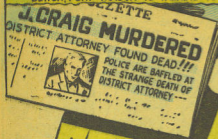
NO! NO!
NO!

CHARGED WITH A MURDER THAT HE DID NOT COMMIT--STEVE PRENTICE, A YOUNG LAWYER PROVES HIMSELF INNOCENT BY ASSUMING THE GUISE OF THE PIED PIPER! HE FORCES A CONFESSION FROM THE REAL MURDERERS BY MEANS OF A STRANGE MAGICAL FLUTE!

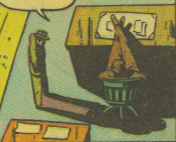
by
ALLEN
ULMER

PIED
PIPER

EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING IN THE OFFICES OF THE DAILY NEWS---
EDITOR 'PURT' MASON IS TALKING TO HIS ACE REPORTER



YOU'RE RIGHT, BOSS. THIS CASE IS TOUGH! CRAIG WASN'T KILLED BY A HUMAN---HE WAS KILLED BY AN ANIMAL! IT MUST HAVE BEEN A LION OR A TIGER!



YOU'RE TALKIN' 'CUKROO "ACE" HOW COULD AN ANIMAL LIKE THAT STALK THE CITY WITHOUT BEING SEEN?

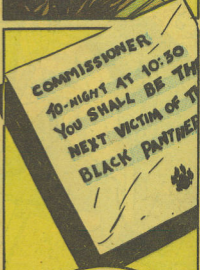


YA GOT ME, BOSS, THAT'S WHAT WE GOTTA FIND OUT! CRAIG DIDN'T HAVE ENEMIES AS FAR AS THE POLICE KNOW!



LATER THAT DAY IN THE OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GURRY

HEY CHIEF LOOK AT THIS! A NOTE WE FOUND IN THE HALL!

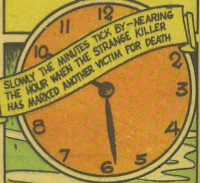


HMM, THIS IS SOMETHING! SO THE MURDERER OF CRAIG HAS ME LISTED AS HIS NEXT VICTIM! HMM, I WONDER WHY HE WARNED ME FIRST!

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO COMMISSIONER? THIS KILLER MEANS BUSINESS!

--AND AN HOUR LATER--

WELL, CHIEF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A THING TO WORRY ABOUT! THIS ENTIRE BUILDING IS SURROUNDED --A FLY COULDN'T GET IN HERE TONIGHT!



BUT AT THAT VERY MOMENT ON THE
ROOF ABOVE TWO STRANGE FIGURES
ARE SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE MOON--

---SLOWLY, THEY MAKE THEIR WAY
DOWN THE NARROW FIRE ESCAPES--

WELL BOYS, IT LOOKS LIKE
OUR KILLER ISN'T GOING TO
SHOW UP! IT'S TEN THIRTY
ON THE DOT!

FROM OUT ON THE FIRE-ESCAPE A
WEIRD PIERCING CRY RINGS
THROUGH THE NIGHT--

AS THE COMMISSIONER RUNS TO
THE WINDOW--HE DOESN'T NOTICE A
HUGE MUSCULAR FORM SPRINGING
FROM ABOVE

AS THE GREAT CAT POUNCES UPON HIS VICTIM---
ANOTHER FIGURE SWINGS OUT OF THE DARKNESS--
TOWARDS THE STRUGGLE---THE PIED PIPER

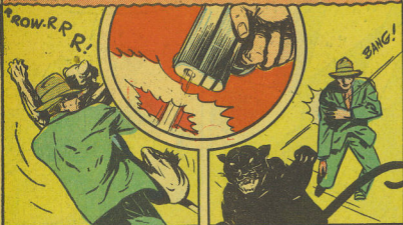
ROW-R-R-R!

AS HE LEAPS ONTO THE BALCONY THE
BLACK PANTHER TURNS FROM THE
COMMISSIONER AND LEAPS AT THE
NEW FOE--

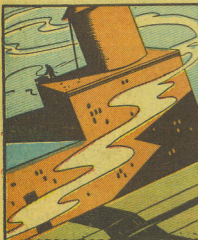
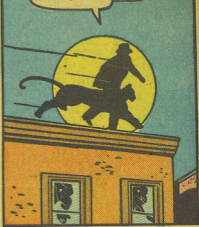
WAITING ABOVE, FOR HIS KILLER CAT TO
STRIKE DEATH---THE MURDERER ON THE
ROOF DRAWS A BEAD ON THE PIED PIPER

BAH! I HADN'T FIGURED
ON THAT GUY INTERFERING
WITH MY PLANS---
NOW HE SHALL
DIE TOO!

LEAPING ON THE PANTHERS BACK THE PIED PIPER STRAINS EVERY EFFORT TO SNAP THE CAT'S NECK---BUT THE KILLER FIRES---AND AS THE BULLET BURIES ITSELF INTO THE PIED PIPER'S ARM THE BEAST DASHES UP THE FIRE ESCAPE TO HIS MASTER---



HE HAS ESCAPED DEATH THIS TIME JEPEETO--BUT THE NIGHT IS STILL YOUNG--



THE MYSTERIOUS MURDERER LEADS HIS PET OVER THE ROOFS AND SOON DISAPPEARS INTO THE FOG---

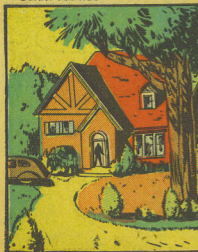
AND THE WOUNDED PIED PIPER ALSO MAKES GOOD HIS ESCAPE



IF MY HUNCH IS RIGHT THE MURDERER WILL STRIKE AGAIN TO-NIGHT!--I'LL HAVE TO BEAT THE COMMISSIONER TO HIS HOME!



AN HOUR LATER COMMISSIONER GURRY ARRIVES AT HIS HOME



AND NOW JEPEETO, WE TRY AGAIN!--HE'S ALONE--HEH-HEH--AND THIS TIME WE WON'T MISS---



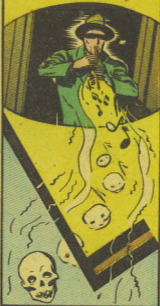
SLOWLY, THE SLINKING FORM OF THE PANTHER CREEPS INTO THE HOUSE--



AT THE DOOR TO THE POLICE COMMISSIONER'S BEDROOM THE BLACK PANTHER HESITATES-- THEN BARING HIS FANGS ---- HE PREPARES TO SPRING!



SUDDENLY, THE PIED PIPER APPEARS IN THE DOORWAY----



THE MAGIC FLUTE AT HIS LIPS EMIT A SERIES OF WEIRD DISCORDANT HIGH-PITCHED NOTES ----



THE REAL MURDERER IS SOMEWHERE OUTSIDE! CALL YOUR MEN AT ONCE!



AS THE EERIE MUSIC SWIRLS THROUGH THE ROOM, THE FEROCIOUS BEAST BACKS AGAINST THE WALL, THEN WITH A LOW WHINE ROLLS OVER DEAD



NO YOU DON'T, I CAME HERE TO KILL YOU GURRY AND NO ONE IS GOING TO STOP ME!



SWIFTLY THE PIED PIPER PIVOTS, AND AS HE COMPLETES THE MOTION, HE SWINGS A POWERFUL RIGHT INTO THE KILLER'S FACE --



HERE'S THE MATE TO THAT SOCK!



COMMISSIONER GURRY SPEAKING-- GET ME HEADQUARTERS HURRY!



NOW LET'S TAKE A
LOOK AT THIS
ANIMAL TRAINER



STOP! DON'T MOVE--YOU
THOUGHT I WAS UNCONSCIOUS
HEH-HEH-HEH--YOU'RE SMART
MR. PIED PIPER--TOO SMART
SO TAKE THIS!



BANG!
BANG!



HA-HA-HA!! I GOT BOTH OF
THEM AT THE SAME TIME
HA-HA-HA!



YOU'RE GETTING
CARELESS CHUM
YOU MISSED
US BOTH!

THEN LIKE A
BOLT FROM THE
BLUE THE PIED
PIPER DIVES DOWN
THE STAIRS!



JERKING HIS PRISONER TO HIS FEET,
HE SENDS A LEFT HOOK CRASHING INTO
THE KILLER'S FACE---



AND NOW COMMISSIONER
I GIVE YOU THE MURDER-
ER OF CRAIG! "PUT"
MASON, EDITOR OF THE
DAILY NEWS--ALIAS
RAZOR HARRIS!

RAZOR
HARRIS!

YES COMMISSIONER FIFTEEN YEARS AGO
WITH CRAIG'S HELP, YOU SENT RAZOR
HARRIS TO PRISON--AFTER SERVING
FIVE YEARS HE WAS PAROLED
WENT TO SOUTH AFRICA WHERE
WROTE ARTICLES ON JUNGLE
LIFE, RETURNING TO
THE STATES HE
SMUGGLED IN A
YOUNG PARTNER--

USING THE NAME OF
MASON, HE LANDED A JOB
WITH THE DAILY NEWS AND
FINALLY BECAME THE
EDITOR--

THEN ALL THESE
YEARS HE PLANNED
TO GET REVENGE
ON CRAIG AND I--



-- HERE COMES
SERGEANT O'NEILL
WHAT THE!-- I--
WELL CAN YA BEAT
THAT!-- THE PIED
PIPER'S GONE!!

FOLLOW THE ADVENTURES
OF THE PIED PIPER
EVERY MONTH IN
CAT-MAN COMICS



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